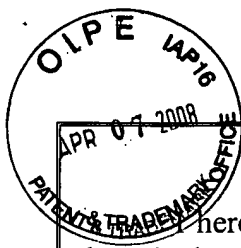


Jfw



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8)

hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on or before March 31, 2008.

3.31.08  
Date

William L. King III  
William L. King III

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : McNicholl  
Examiner : To be assigned  
Serial No. : 10/538,675  
Group Art Unit : To be assigned  
Confirmation No. : To be assigned  
Filing Date : June 9, 2005  
Attorney Docket No. : IPG-051112  
Title : A DEVICE FOR TEMPORARILY SHIELDING THE  
END OF A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT SHARP

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1) and/or 1.97(b)(3). As such, it appears that no fee is required for consideration of the

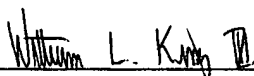
Statement by the Examiner.

Accompanying this statement is Form PTO-1449, on which the references are listed, as well as a Statement of the Basis of Relevance of The Non-Translated Foreign References for applicable references.

This Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the same is, or is considered to be, material to patentability under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, neither this Statement nor the accompanying documents are intended to take the place of the Examiner's independent search of the prior art and independent evaluation of the prior art and other information, including that brought to the Examiner's attention with this Statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 3.31.08

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William L. King III  
Reg. No. 46,830

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170 College Avenue, Suite 230  
Holland, Michigan 49423  
Phone (616) 355-0400  
Facsimile (616) 355-9862

<b>Form PTO-1449</b> <b>(REV. 8-83)</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. IPG-051112	SERIAL NO. 10/538,675
	APPLICANT McNicholl et al.			
	FILING DATE June 9, 2005		GROUP To be assigned	

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	5,342,375	8/30/1994	Lemole			
	5,143,414	9/1/1992	Rosellini			
	4,985,038	1/15/1991	Lyeil			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANS. YES NO

### OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on or before March 31, 2008.

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---

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF RELEVANCE OF  
THE NON-TRANSLATED FOREIGN REFERENCES**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant hereby submits a Statement of the Basis of Relevance of the Non-Translated Foreign References for the above-identified application.

<u>Publication Number</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Basis for Relevance</u>
DE 29717867 U	November 27, 1997	The invention relates to an accessory to assist hand sewing of thick materials, such as denim or leather etc., has a drilling (2) in a base body (1) which is part of the needle (4) length, with a diameter at least that of the needle eye (5) diameter. The body (1) has a clamping lever (8) for the needle point (4) section, separate from the drilling (2).

If any other charges or fees must be paid or credited in connection with this communication, they may be paid or credited out of Deposit Account No. 50-2131.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 3. 31. 08

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